

EXPRESS MAIL MAILING LABEL
No. EL565161884US

Attorney's Docket No. C0852/7013 JNA

Date of Deposit:
May 22, 2001

Applicant or Patentee: Robert B. Chaffee
Serial or Patent No: Not yet assigned
Filed or Issued: Herewith
For: A FASTENER FOR USE WITH A FASTENING ELEMENT AND AN
INFLATABLE DEVICE FOR USE WITH THE FASTENER

**DECLARATION CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS
(INDEPENDENT INVENTOR)**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled A FASTENER FOR USE WITH A FASTENING ELEMENT AND AN INFLATABLE DEVICE FOR USE WITH THE FASTENER described in

the specification filed herewith
 application serial no. _____ filed _____
 patent no. _____, issued _____.

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who would not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

no such person, concern, or organization
 persons, concerns or organizations listed below*

*NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

FULL NAME

ADDRESS

INDIVIDUAL SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

536055.1

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Robert B. Chaffee

NAME OF INVENTOR

NAME OF INVENTOR

NAME OF INVENTOR

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR

DATE

DATE

DATE

EXPRESS MAIL MAILING LABEL

No. EL565/61884US

Date of Deposit : May 22, 2001

Attorney Docket No. C0852/7013 JNA

DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

A FASTENER FOR USE WITH A FASTENING ELEMENT AND AN INFLATABLE DEVICE FOR USE WITH THE FASTENER

the specification of which is attached hereto unless the following is checked:

[] was filed on , as Application No. , bearing attorney docket No. , and was amended on (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119(a)-(d) or §365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or section 365(a) of any PCT International application designating at least one country other than the United States listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate or PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign PCT International Application(s)and any priority claims under 35 U.S.C. §§119 and 365(a),(b):

			Priority Claimed	
(Number)	(Country-if PCT, so indicate)	(DD/MM/YY Filed)	[]	[]
			YES	NO
			[]	[]
			YES	NO
			[]	[]
			YES	NO

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

<u>60/206,172</u>	<u>May 22, 2001</u>
(Application Number)	(filling date)
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
(Application Number)	(filling date)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s), or §365(c) of any PCT International application(s) designating the United States of America listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application:

<u>(Application No.)</u>	<u>(filling date)</u>	<u>(status-patented, pending, abandoned)</u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u>(Application No.)</u>	<u>(filling date)</u>	<u>(status-patented, pending, abandoned)</u>

PCT International Applications designating the United States:

<u>(PCT Appl. No.)</u>	<u>(U.S. Ser. No.)</u>	<u>(PCT filing date)</u>	<u>(status-patented,pending,abandoned)</u>
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I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Rob Chaffee
Inventor's signature

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5/22/01

Date